THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An American pharmaceutical company, Vaxgen is in the final stages of testing an "AIDS VAX" vaccine, which is gp 120 sub-unit HIV 1 sub-type B vaccine. The Phase III clinical trials for the vaccine have been completed. The analysis of the results demonstrates a reduction of only 3.8% of the infection among the entire sample of 5009 volunteers.

(c) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, Govt. of India has launched a comprehensive National AIDS Control Programme, currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme with the following components :—

- Preventive interventions for high risk populations through targeted interventions adpoting a multi-pronged strategy including peer counseling and behaviour change communication.
- Preventive interventions for the general population through programmes for blood safety, voluntary counselling and testing services, information education and communication (IEC) & awareness building among adolescents and sensitization for the AIDS Vaccine Initiative.

  Provision of low cost care and support services by providing community care services, treatment of opportunistic infections and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Collaborative efforts to promote inter-sectoral programme activities including workplace interventions and public-private partnerships.
- Building technical and managerial capacities for programme implementation through Surveillance, Training, Monitoring and Evaluation, Technical resource groups, operational research and Programme management.

Consumption of Schedule-H drugs

3171. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the list of Schedule-H drugs alongwith its consumption during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the norms laid down for the restricted use of these drugs;

(c) whether there is an abnormal increase of consumption in certain parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) The reasons for such increase and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules thereunder, the State Licensing Authorities are empowered to ensure that Schedule-H drugs are not sold by the chemists and druggists without the prescription of a Registered Medical Practitioner. The Central Government does not monitor State-wise consumption of Schedule-H drugs. These figures are not available.

(b) Rule 97 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 requires that the container of a medicine shall bear on its label the symbol Rx which shall be conspicuously displayed on the left corner of the label if it contains a substance specified in Schedule-H. The container of the medicine shall also be labelled with the words 'Schedule-H drug—Warning : To be sold by retail on the prescription of Registered Medical Practitioner only.' Furthermore the said Rule also requires that medicines falling under Schedule-H shall also bear on their label a conspicuous red vertical line on the left side running through out the body of the label.

(c) No reports are available with the Drugs Controller General of India regarding any abnormal increase in consumption of such drugs in certain parts of the country.

(d) and (e) In view of the above, the question does not arise.

Discrepancies in Purchase of CGHS Unani Medicines

3172. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee under the Chairmanship of D.G.H.S. was constituted to inquire the discrepancies found in purchase of C.G.H.S. Unani Medicines;

(b) if so, the details of the findings of the Committee;

(c) whether any action has been taken on the findings of the Committee and, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when, the action on the report will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The report submitted by the Committee is being examined by the Government and necessary action would be taken expeditiously.